

MINUTES FROM A REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 26, 2024

The Government Body of the City of Rio Hondo, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on March 26, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, with Mayor- Gustavo Olivares Present, Mayor Pro-Tem- Margaret Perez - Present, Commissioners Juan Garza- Present, Esteban Bocanegra- Absent, Olga Gallegos- Present , and Jose Cavazos- Present

Also Present: Ben Medina, City Administrator
Robert Drinkard, City Attorney
Jesse Izaguirre
Jeremie Hinojosa

William Bilokury Police Chief
Lucy Garza, Finance Director

INVOCATION: Led by Commissioner Juan Garza

Call meeting to Mayor-Gustavo Olivares

Regular Agenda:

1. Mayor's and Commissioners' Reports No Reports Given
2. Reports: Administrator—Mr. Medina stated that Dollar General will have a soft opening in April. He requested a Red Coat representative that will be part of the Chamber of Commerce – Harlingen small cities coalition. This person will be the contact for events that will involve the Chamber of Commerce – Harlingen.
3. Public Comment Period: *Please Note- The Public Comment Period is designated for hearing concerns regarding City of Rio Hondo Public Policy or City of Rio Hondo business that is or is not on the agenda or items listed on the agenda.* Mr. Jeremey Hinojosa report to the City Commission of a special needs tournament that he will be having in conjunction with the Rio Hondo Sports League. He stated that his players and the league were working together. Mr. Jesse Izaguirre thanked the commission for the new parking lot lights and for the staff has done at the park.
4. Consideration and Action on approving the March 12, 2024, City Commission Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Perez motioned to approve the minutes with the correction to replace Commissioner Bocanegra with Commissioner Garza and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Garza and the motion passed unanimously.
5. Discussion with the Texas Department of Transportation regarding sidewalk project and a scheduled Public Hearing regarding FM 509. Item Tabled
6. Status Report on Boat Ramp Park Project. (City Administrator).Mr. Medina explained that the paving of the parking lot will be done in the month of April. The fishing pier is 80% complete and the walkways will be done after the cement is laid along the shore. Commissioner Garza requested the time of completion report. Mr. Medina explained that a completion report will be presented in the April meeting. Mayor Olivares stated that the commission needs to approve entrance fees and camping site fees. No Action was made.
7. Financial Report (City Administrator and Finance Manager). Mr. Medina presented the financial report with cost and checks processed and checking account balances. No Action was made.

8. Consideration and Action approving all final costs and closing the 2022-2023 Community Development Block Grant fund street reconstruction projects. Mr. Medina presented the final cost of Ramon Street, Heywood Street, and Retama Street. This report is attached to these minutes. Commissioner Perez motioned to approve the report and seconded by Commissioner Cavazos and the motion passed unanimously.
9. Consideration and Action on Resolution 2024-09 of the City of Rio Hondo authorizing Professional Services Provider selection for Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) resilient community program. Mr. Medina explained that this resolution was needed to approve the selection of GrantWorks LLC to administer the grant and conduct the Comprehensive Planning process for the City of Rio Hondo. The current plan was done in 2012 and needs to be updated. Grant funding opportunities need this plan. Mr. Anthony Covacevich a staff person from GrantWorks and stated that the plan will be developed with as much citizen input as possible. The Mayor ask what kinds of media will be used to draw citizens to participate and Mr. Covaevich stated that surveys, neighborhood meetings, and meetings at schools and churches will be conducted. A motion was made by Commissioner Garza to approve the Resolution No. 2024-09 approving GrantWorks LLC to administer the Comprehensive Planning Process. And the motion was seconded by Commissioner Perez and the motion passed unanimously.
10. Presentation of market value appraisal for the city-owned property located at 200 W. Colorado Blvd., Lot 16 Block 7 of the Rio Hondo Original Townsite. Mr. Medina presented the appraisal done by Robinson and Duffey Appraisal Firm , The value of the building for Fred's Drug Store. The commission directed Mr Medina to start preparing the bid to sell this building. No Action was taken.
11. Adjournment Commissioner Perez motioned to adjourn and seconded by Commissioner Gallegos and the motion passed unanimously.



Gustavo Olivares
Mayor of the City of Rio Hondo

Attest:

Ben Medina, City Administrator .